

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An image forming apparatus comprising:  
image input means, for entering an image;  
storage means, for storing said image;  
5 image forming means, for reading said image from  
said storage means and for forming said image; and  
control means, for providing control for said  
image forming means in accordance with a mode set for  
an image copying process,

10 wherein a function is provided that can set a  
trial copying mode for an image forming process and can  
copy one set when said trial copying mode is effective,  
and that can thereafter temporarily halt said image  
forming process and enable a mode reset, and

15 wherein for a copying operation performed after  
said trial copying mode is released, a numeral can be  
set to a predetermined value in accordance with a mode  
change effected during a halted state existing  
immediately before the copying.

20 2. An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein, in  
a copying operation after said trial copying mode is  
released, when a numeral is changed in the temporarily  
halted state immediately before copying, copying is  
25 performed by the number equivalent to said numeral.

3. An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein, in

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a copying operation after said trail copying mode is released, when a mode other than a numeral is changed in the halted state immediately before copying, copying is performed by the number equivalent to the numeral previously set.

4. An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein, in a copying operation after said trail copying mode is released, when a numeral is not changed in the halted state immediately before copying, said is decremented by one, and copying is performed by the number equivalent to said numeral that is newly obtained.

5. An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein, in said trial copying mode, trial copying is performed always by only one set, and said numeral that is set is unchanged.

6. An image forming method comprising the steps of:  
entering an image;  
storing said image;  
reading said stored image and forming said image;  
providing control for said image forming method in accordance with a mode set for an image copying process; and  
enabling setting of a trial copying mode for an

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image forming process, copying of one set when said trial copying mode is effective, thereafter temporarily halting of said image forming process and enable a mode reset, and, for a copying operation performed after  
5 said trial copying mode is released, setting of a numeral to a predetermined value in accordance with a mode change effected during a halted state existing immediately before the copying.

10 7. A storage medium on which a program is stored to carry out an image forming method, which comprises the steps of:  
entering an image;  
storing said image;  
15 reading said stored image and forming said image;  
providing control for said image forming method in accordance with a mode set for an image copying process; and

20 enabling setting of a trial copying mode for an image forming process, copying of one set when said trial copying mode is effective, thereafter temporarily halting of said image forming process and enable a mode reset, and, for a copying operation performed after  
25 said trial copying mode is released, setting of a numeral to a predetermined value in accordance with a mode change effected during a halted state existing immediately before the copying.

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